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2-0746



22 August 1951

Memorandum for the Record

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1. Mr. Babbitt, Director of Intelligence of the Federal Civil Defense Administration, conferred with Mr. [] and subsequently with Mr. [] as set forth below. Mr. Pforzheimer, Legislative Counsel, was also present.

2. On 21 August, Governor Caldwell, Administrator of Civil Defense, and his staff appeared before the Task Force of the Preparedness Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Armed Services to discuss plans and policies of the Civil Defense Administration. Governor Caldwell pointed out their need for funds in order to carry out their plans and policies to prepare the civilian population against an all out atomic attack. At this point Senator Saltonstall stated that he had heard testimony on the previous day from top officials of the Department of Defense that the continental United States was now safe from attack. He was therefore confused by the conflicting statements and needs of the Civil Defense Administration.

3. In the light of these statements, Mr. Babbitt checked with ONE to see whether there had been any change in the CIA estimate and was informed that there was not. Mr. [] informed Mr. Babbitt that the Defense Department's statement was in fact contrary to CIA estimates which had been agreed upon by the IAC members and that Governor Caldwell, in his own defense, could testify that the Defense statement was contrary to CIA intelligence estimates.

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4. Mr. Pforzheimer pointed out that if Governor Caldwell made such a statement, it might result in a request the Director of Central Intelligence testify as to our estimate of the present situation, but it was agreed that Governor Caldwell must make such a statement to protect his own agency and its funds. Mr. Pforzheimer also cautioned Mr. Babbitt that any such statement made by Governor Caldwell must be in Executive Session and also off-the-record.

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Walter L. Pforzheimer

cc: Mr. Babbitt on 5 Oct 1951
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